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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1-21 (Cancelled)

Claim 22 (Currently Amended): A computer system, comprising:

~~a system CPU;~~

~~a liquid crystal display;~~

one or more cold cathode fluorescent lamps (CCFLs) ~~illuminating said display;~~

an inverter circuit capable of generating an AC signal to power said one or more lamps;

and

an inverter controller ~~adapted to generate~~ capable of controlling said inverter circuit, said controller comprising ~~at least one a first input pin configured to receive two or more input signals~~ capable of receiving a first input signal representing a current feedback signal and a second input signal representing a soft start signal, each said input signal supporting an associated function of said controller during operation of said controller.

Claim 23 (Previously Presented): A computer system as claimed in claim 22, wherein said inverter circuit selected from a push-pull, half bridge and full-bridge inverter topologies.

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Claim 24 (Previously Presented): A computer system as claimed in claim 22, wherein said inverter circuit comprises a plurality of power switches for converting a DC signal to said AC signal.

Claim 25 (Previously Presented): A computer system as claimed in claim 22, wherein said inverter circuit comprises a step-up transformer receiving said AC signal and generating a stepped-up AC signal.

Claim 26 (Currently Amended): A computer system as claimed in claim 22, wherein said controller further comprising a second input pin, said second input pin configured to receive a first third signal representing a dim voltage, said first third signal having a first voltage range; and a second fourth signal representing a voltage feedback signal indicative of voltage supplied to said CCFL, said second fourth signal having a second voltage range.

Claim 27 (Currently Amended): A computer system as claimed in claim ~~22~~ 26, further comprising a multiplexer circuit to direct one of said input third or fourth signals to a first circuit to support a first said function of said controller, and to direct another of said input third or fourth signals to a second circuit to support a second said another function of said controller.

Claim 28 (Current Amended): A computer system as claimed in claim 22, wherein one of said input first or second signals is present in a first time period and another of said input first or second signals is present in a second time period.

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Claims 29-34 (Cancelled)